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The Long Island FISHERMAN

DECEMBER 20TH, 1973, ISSUE NO. 49

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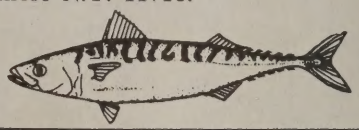
CLUB NEWS

BELLMORE ROD AND GUN CLUB

On Saturday, January 26, 1974, the Bellmore Rod and Gun Club will hold its 21st Installation Dinner Dance. This event, which is held at the Bellmore Masonic Lodge, produces a large attendance and is one of THE social events of the year. For further information, write to: Bellmore Rod and Gun Club, Inc., P.O. Box 324, Bellmore N.Y. 11710.



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"BRAND X" WILL RESUME SAILING IN
MARCH 1974 FOR FLOUNDERS

SEASONS
GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR FRIENDS & CUSTOMERS
FROM CAPT. BILL, HELEN & RICHIE
OF THE "WILHELRIC"

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Vol. 8 No. 49 December 20, 1973

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The staff of The Long Island Fisherman sends its greetings to all its friends, and wishes them a Very Merry Christmas. See you all in the new year!

PUBLISHER: Rich Reina

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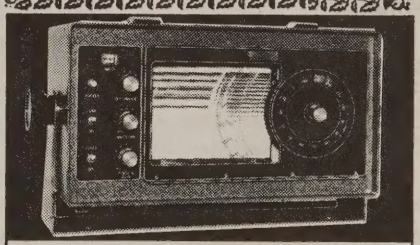
Season's Greetings

AND GREET THE SEASON WITH

LUPO LURES



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News Releases

STRIPED BASS FUND MEETING

Senator Abe Ribicoff of Connecticut accepts The 1973 Reinfelder Award, for his care and concern for Americas' coastal resources, from Pat Carroll, Vice-President of the Striped Bass Fund.

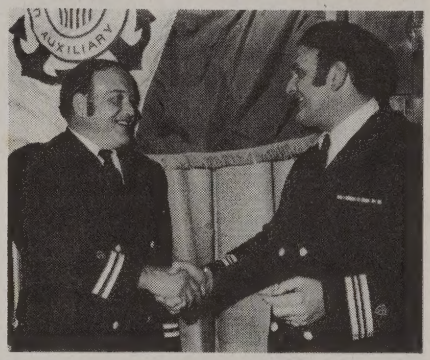
The presentation was made at the annual seminar of the Striped Bass Fund, held at Mount St. Vincents' College in Riverdale, on Saturday, December 8.

Attendees learned of the present state of the total fishery during the morning session, and were treated to "how-to-fish-for-bass lessons, during the afternoon by a variety of pros from along the middle Atlantic seaboard.

SAFE BOATING AND SEAMANSHIP COURSE

Flotilla 15 Bay Shore will present a 12 lesson "Safe Boating and Seamanship" course beginning January 9, 1974, at 7 p.m., at the Bay Shore Junior High School. The school is located on the east side of Brook Avenue, north of the Sunrise Highway.

Some topics to be covered will be, Legal, Marlinspike, Rules of the Road, Sailing, Weather, and Engine Maintenance. For more information call (516) 665-6954.



NEW COMMANDER OF 13-7

Short Beach Coast Guard Station, L.I., N.Y., Dec. 5 — Commander Eugene Horowitz, left, is congratulated by Captain Robert Shaw as he assumes command of the local 13-7 Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla at a "change of watch" ceremony held at the Sea Breeze Restaurant in Freeport last week. Commander Horowitz is a resident of Baldwin and Captain Shaw, Division 13 Captain, is from Merrick. The flotilla, manned by Long Island boatsmen, actively conducts programs in boating safety in the area and assists the Coast Guard in its assigned tasks. Last year it was nominated by the 3rd North Atlantic district as the outstanding flotilla in the country.

IMPORTANT BUNKER MEETING

If you are interested in Long Island Sound STRIPED BASS and BLUEFISH — BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING!!

SPONSOR: The Southern New York Fish & Game Association; P.O. B. 214; Phone: 914-834-7334; White Plains, N.Y. 10602

DATE: 8 P.M. Thursday, Jan. 17, 1974

PLACE: Little Theater, Westchester County Center White Plains, N.Y.

The Center is at the intersection of Bronx River Parkway, Central Ave., and Tarrytown Rd. From I-287 (Cross-Westchester Expressway), take Exit 4 and follow Tarrytown Rd. east. Only one half mile from White Plains railroad station.

Here is your chance to learn —

The effect of commercial menhaden seining on sportfishing.

The potential for enacting legislation to restrict the bunker boats.

The importance of Long Island Sound in the overall commercial menhaden fishery.

PROGRAM

Pictures of Menhaden Seining And Processing

Art Glowka will show pictures taken aboard a commercial seining vessel and in the processing plant. This will permit sportsmen to learn exactly how the commercial fishery operates.

Panel Discussion

The following panel will comment briefly on the controversy between the commercial men and sportsmen — then they will answer specific audience questions:

TED KEATLEY: Chairman (co-author of FISHING THE LONG ISLAND SOUND)

SEN. JOSEPH R. PISANI: Sponsor of legislation to restrict the commercial menhaden fishery

Assemblyman RICHARD MANNIX: Co-sponsor of the menhaden bills

ALBERT C. JENSEN: Regional Supervisor of Marine and Coastal Resources, N.Y. State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

DAVID H. CLARK: Vice Pres., Seacoast Products Co. (the major menhaden processor in this area)

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

One of the more difficult facets of the editor's job is that he is occasionally required to disseminate bad news to the readers of his publication.

With full realization that this is the Christmas season, that we are in the first minor throes of an energy situation which shall not be resolved for some years, and that prices of most goods continue to gallop out of reach — to join Kohoutek in its Valkyrian flight through the heavens, no doubt — I bring the additional, unwanted news that prices of The Long Island Fisherman will increase, as of January 1, 1974, to nine (9) dollars for subscriptions and twenty five cents ($.25) per single copy.

It would be easy to say nothing more of the matter and merely await the response through mails from an irate, incensed readership, and to let each coin topple as it will. However, we do feel an obligation to those that have been with us to explain why these price increases are necessary.

Last August we were advised by our supplier that we would be compelled to accept a 68% increase in the cost of the paper used to print The Fisherman. The complete text of the letter follows:

"Dear Mr. Reina:

We have been able to obtain a new source of 50-lb. offset paper for use in printing the Long Island Fisherman. Unfortunately, the cost price is a very steep increase over what we have been charged, and I feel sure you will understand that this increase cannot be absorbed by us.

Since 1969 your paper costs have been based on fifteen cents per pound. Our increase since June 1973 amounts to ten cents per pound which we are passing on to you, making your new paper cost twenty five cents per pound, an increase of 68%, and will be effective after August 13, 1973.

You are aware undoubtedly of the seriousness of the paper shortage — not only in newsprint but also in the higher priced papers used in magazi[illegible] and other publications. Except for price, we feel fortunate in obtaining this new source of supply.

Very truly yours,..."

Although the increase in the cost of paper, alone, would not have demolished our price structure, additional increases we had incurred, and were told we would have to accept in the beginning of 1974, were sufficient to force us in a direction that was totally undesired by everyone.

In July, The Fisherman was contacted by the U.S. Postal Service and informed that it would suffer an 18% increase in postal rates that month, and that there would be additional increases — averaging approximately 40% — that would face us when we awakened on January 5, 1974.

Our accountant surveyed the entire situation with his jaundiced financial eye, rapped his cane on the table as he tugged his scraggly, graying beard, shrugged, then indicated that one of two choices was ours to make — the first being to stop publishing our fancy fish wrapper because we were losing money, and would lose much more in the future. Businesses, even sporting magazines, apparently, cannot continue operations at a loss without quickly submitting themselves to a gamut of troubles and problems.

The decision was made — for better, we hope — to increase our rates and prices all around in order to continue bringing this magazine to Long Island fishermen. After all, that is our name.

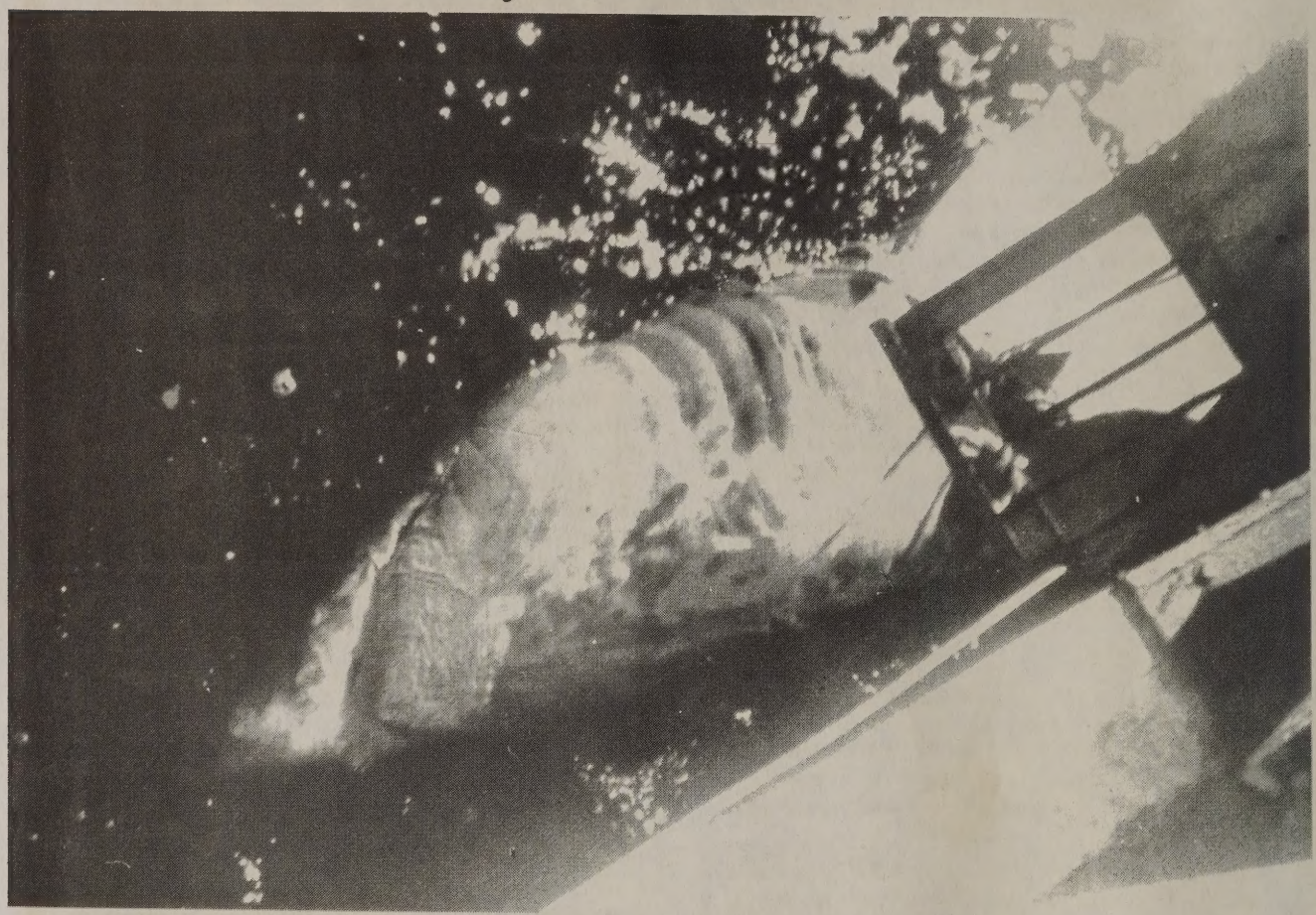
We hope you will agree with the choice we made. In the past, whenever the undesireable duty of announcing a price raise confronted us, we afforded our readership the opportunity to renew or extend their present renewal for as many years as they wished before the new prices came into effect. Once again we will hold to our past policy. Any subscription received in this office postmarked before Midnight December 31st 1973 will be honored, no matter how many years the subscription is

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

Use the special subscripti[illegible] blank at right to renew yo[illegible] present subscription at t[illegible] 1973 rates before the pri[illegible] increase becomes effecti[illegible] December 31, 1973.

A Great White Shark

by Dick Mermon



The cow-catcher, 2½ feet wide, gives an indication of the size of the shark.

Caracharodon carcharias, better identified to all as the "White Shark", is known for its tremendous size, aggressiveness, and ugliness. It is not known as one of the prettiest of sharks by any means but still there is a type of beauty that catches the eye.

Sharks date back to before the stone age, and the [illegible] since then to change the outer as[illegible] white shark.

seems the big ones always get away.

In September, 1972, about 2:00 A.M., Captain Norman Maillet took his 64 foot lobster boat, "Smart Aleck", out of Debbs Inlet (East Rockaway), Long Island, in a [illegible]-southeast direction. On board was the engineer, Norry [illegible]k hand Bobby Maillet. The sea was flat and the [illegible]s to remain that way for several days,

[illegible]n the morning, Norry and young [illegible]catcher" over the side as the boat [illegible]first marker flag of the set line of [illegible]cher is about five feet wide in the [illegible]feet on the side, and works in the

[illegible]ght in and the line is looped up to [illegible]e that has an anchor attached to [illegible] weighted object another line is [illegible]he lobster pots, which are evenly [illegible]her.

[illegible] object is brought up, the pot line [illegible]tcher. The pots are brought onto [illegible]e side to a ramp which leads onto [illegible] the lobster pots are emptied and [illegible] Then the pots (newly baited) are

placed on the opposite side of the boat for setting again.

This time, as the buoy came over the side onto the deck, the winched strained as the 5/8 inch, yellow nylon rope came in. Everybody thought that it was either the biggest haul of lobsters ever or, possibly, one of the pots was hung on the bottom. The line was still coming up. Every once in a while the ship would dip to the side, as though a weight was pulling it down. It took quite some time for the line to be hauled, as the "Smart Aleck" was in one hundred five fathoms of water. (To laymen of the boating and fishing world, this is six hundred thirty feet, since there are six feet to the fathom.)

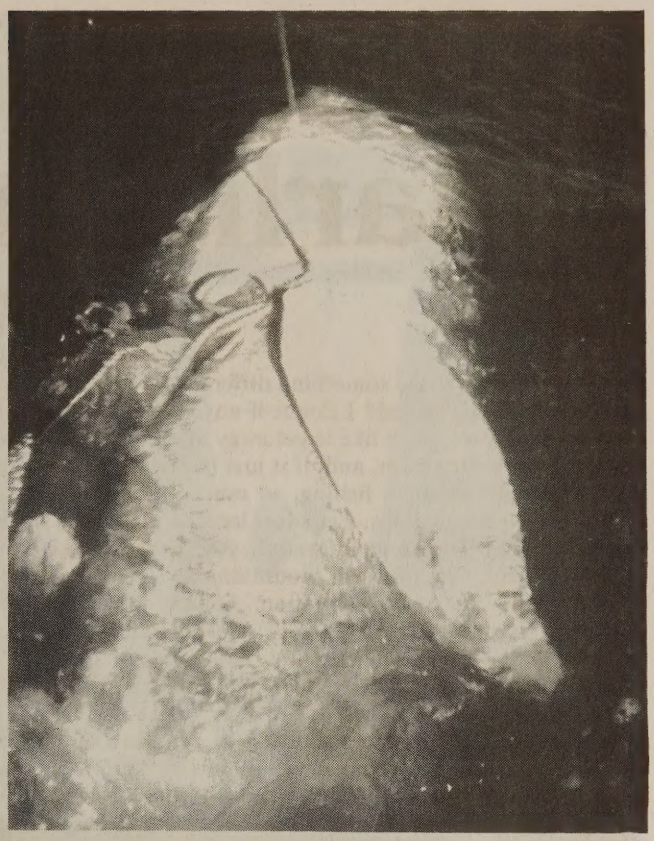
As the winch strained under great pressure, the long vigil was rewarded by a huge bulk of a fish coming up from the bottom. It appeared white in color, though still some twenty five feet down in the gin clear water. At first glimpse it looked like a small whale of some type and, as it neared the surface, the fish reacted to the sight of the boat by thrashing and pumping. It was actually fighting on the line, with the winch, the rod and reel.

The only problem was that there was no hook in its mouth. The enormous, whitish body neared the surface and everyone looked with awe at the fish. It was not a whale as each had first thought, but a white shark.

When the shark reached the cow catcher, it thrashed the water and tightened the rope in which it had entangled itself. Apparently, the shark must have rubbed against the buoy line that leads to the anchor and pots, became entangled in the line with its tail, and then rolled up into it. Sharks will actually roll themselves up into the line, then work their bodies and fray it, but this time the shark apparently could work its body, because it was so badly twisted and entangled.

Now Captain Maillet had a problem, what to do with such

(Continued on page 19.)



The huge pectoral fin of the shark became tangled in the 5/8-inch rope.

SINCEREST WISHES FOR A

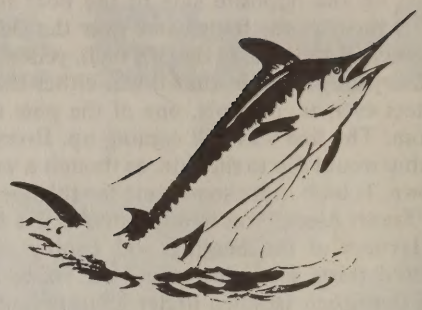
Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

JAMESPORT TACKLE CENTER RT. 25 JAMESPORT, L.I., N.Y.

Where the Marlin Are



by Al Ristori

Ever get a yen to do something different — something you can't do on Long Island? I doubt if anyone is so set in their ways that they wouldn't like to get away to some place that's a little off the beaten path, and, if it just happens to have some of the worlds' greatest fishing, so much the better!

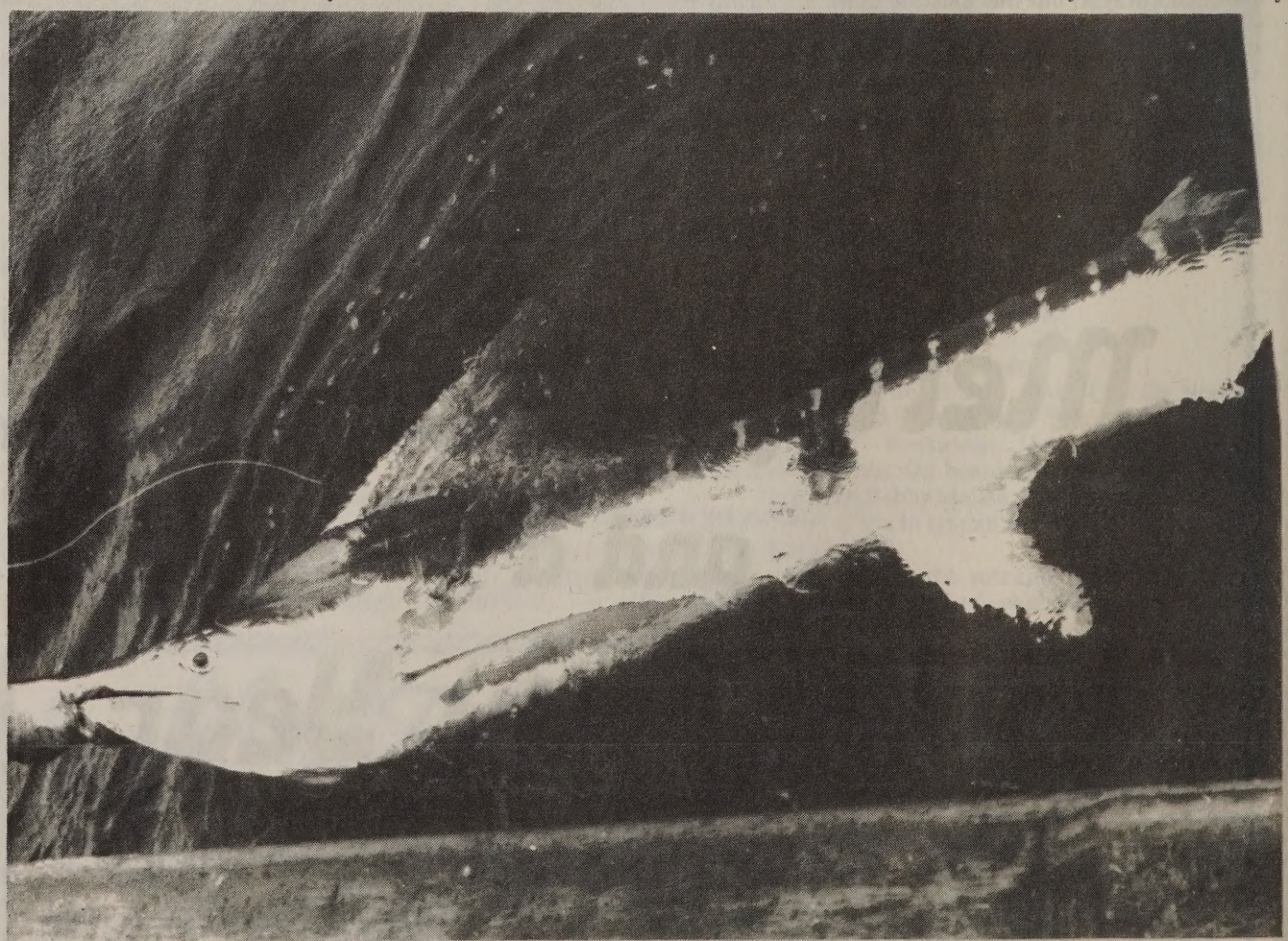
Such a spot is Salinas, Ecuador, located just south of the equator. After flying into Guayaquil, you'll have to take a two hour taxi ride through lush mountains and parched desert before reaching your destination. Salinas is the major seacoast resort for Ecuador's upper classes, but don't expect any Miami Beach. There are some fairly impressive condominiums going up, but the streets are still dirt and the atmosphere strictly informal.

About ten miles outside of town you can have the best of both worlds. You can be in a truly isolated location and still have all the comforts of a luxury hotel. Punta Carnero is the site for a magnificent hotel built into a cliff overlooking the Pacific. Large air-conditioned rooms make for comfortable sleeping and the meals would please any gourmet. Be sure to try the lobster grilled in whiskey and the huge shrimps grilled in garlic!

The weather is as near to perfect as possible. Where else is it possible for small charter boats to sail every day of the year? In fact it is this which makes Salinas such a bargain for a fishing vacation.

In Florida or the Bahamas, winter fishing is risky indeed. If a cold front comes through you'll probably end up spending half your trip on the beach. No worry about that in Salinas, where a 15 mph wind is considered "strong".

Most people imagine that all tropical areas are unbearably hot. This isn't always true, and certainly isn't so in Salinas. Since the coast is bounded by desert the humidity



A subdued stripe at boatside.

is low and the heat quite comfortable.

Until the last few years rain was almost unheard of, but the weather appears to be changing. There are now a few days during the rainy season (our winter months) when there is actually some rain. This occurs at night or in the morning.

In such an idyllic spot can there be fish too? There sure can — and if it's marlin fishing such as the easterner rarely sees. The prevalent species is striped marlin and they can be seen on the surface almost every day of the year in an area about 12 miles offshore of Point Elena. While some blind strikes are recorded, most striped marlin are spotted tailing and baited.

This is truly exciting fishing. On a poor day you should see 5-10 marlin and this figure would jump to perhaps 20 on a fair day. Most months there are several days when individual boats lose track of all they see.

This doesn't mean that you'll catch all you can see or even get most of them to take a look at the baits. There are days when you'll bait twenty to catch one, and others when only a few are sighted but they're all "eaters". That's all part of the game that can be just as frustrating as it is exciting!

Spotting marlin is great sport, but baiting them is the best of the sport. When a marlin gets excited he "lights up" in a beautiful neon blue. Frequently he'll dart from bait to bait and often steal a few of them before you can sink the hook. When he feels the steel you'll see some aerial acrobatics that never ceases to amaze. I've boated marlin that have jumped forty times, but a dozen leaps would be average.

Because they run and jump themselves to exhaustion (much like our white marlin), striped marlin are perfect billfish for light tackle. Most beginners start with 50 pound tackle but soon find that 30 is quite sufficient and a lot easier to handle standing up. Even 20 pound is fairly practical, but anything less constitutes "stunt fishing".

The boats aren't fancy but they all have fighting chairs. However, a chair isn't really necessary for these fish and you'll find that you have much better contact with the fish standing up.

The author with his 576 pound black marlin taken after a 6½ hour battle.

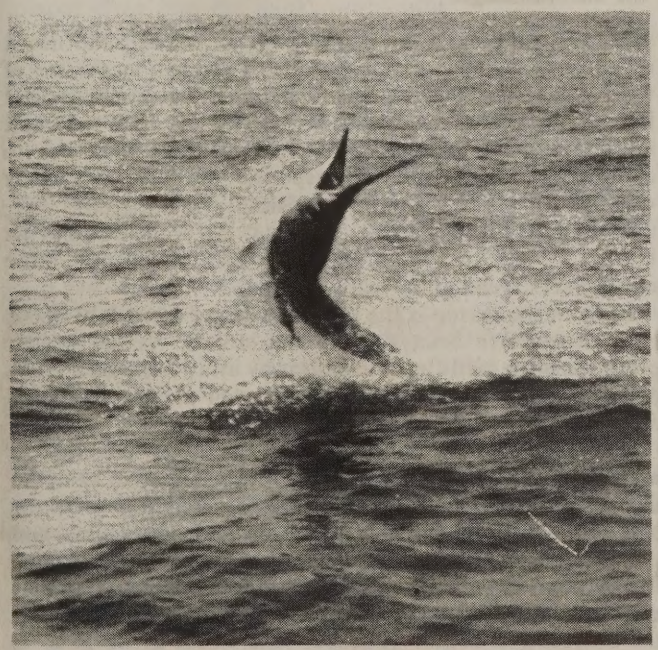
Results vary widely as the fishing changes from day to day, however, the boats generally average one or two marlin a day and catches of 5-10 occur on occasion. The size also varies — with no particular rhyme of reason but, as a general rule, 150 pounds would be considered average (about three times the size of an "average" white). The fish are kept by the crews and sold ashore, where they provide the basic source of protein for the populace.

Offshore you'll catch little but striped marlin and dolphin throughout our winter months. In fact the dolphin can be a real problem, often taking baits just as you're about to bait a marlin. They appear to be most abundant on days when the marlin aren't showing well and, therefore, often save some otherwise slow days.

From mid-April to November black marlin and very large Pacific Sailfish become more abundant. These fish are only occasional visitors during the winter months when the stripes are at their peak. But you never know when a big black might come out of nowhere and jump on one of your balao. I got just such a blind strike in January, 1970 and 6½ hours later boated a 576 pound black on line that tested out at 39.9 pounds!

This year I wasn't so lucky when fate presented me with a great opportunity. One morning we baited (with a 30 lb. rig) what we thought was a marlin but turned out to be a swordfish of close to 500 pounds! Unlike a stripe, this gamester wouldn't tire himself out with long runs and aerial displays. We did get two beautiful, arching jumps out of him

(Continued on page 20.)



Harry Ross jumping a striped marlin off Salinas.

Hunting the Canada Goose

by Bill Bornscheur

In waterfowling, keep the gunning boat well-hidden. Camoflage, too, is all-important: you must blend into the surroundings.

To a deer hunter, the most exciting seconds occur when his eyes first lock onto a buck and the "fever" sets in. To the man gunning the fields, a brilliant cock pheasant bursting up from cover is the catalyst for tingling nerve ends. But, to the waterfowler crouched in his grassed duckboat, there is one sound that sets his heart to thumping...the wild, haunting call of Canadian geese on the wing.

Most duck hunters dream of the day when a flock of the big, gray birds makes up its mind to stool and comes gliding in, wings set, honking a greeting, but lets face it — geese are smart, much smarter than any black duck that ever lived. The gunner looking forward to a roast goose dinner had better be smarter than the geese he's hunting.

What this all boils down to is knowing where the birds fly — to and from — and then gunning them over decoys or as they pass over a certain area.

First thing we must look into is the feeding habits of the birds. Their diet consists mainly of vegetable matter: grass and grains. Geese either pluck grass from shore or dip up and down in the shoal water, feeding from the bottom. Eel grass makes up part of the diet when geese feed in the salt marshes.

One important fact to remember about the feeding habits of geese is that they require sand or gravel to aid in the digestion of their food. Geese will often pick a favorite sandbar in the bay (usually far from an island), and use it reguarly, flying to it on the ebb tide. If you can locate one of these areas, there's a chance to get in some good shooting. I have know fellows to don a pair of waders and surround themselves with decoys, waiting patiently for the flock to come. This sometimes works, especially on foggy or heavily overcast days, when the birds' visibility is impared.

Another prime spot to set out for geese is the point of an island. I don't know why, but geese seen to fly past these same places, year after year.

Early in the season is the best time to get a crack at geese before they have been shot at and scared. As the season progressess the birds tend to either shy away from land areas or simply gain enough altitude to fly safely above — well out of range.

The geese that most gunners shoot actually live close to man, and one of the best ways to find geese is to visit the nearest park that has a small pond or lake. Most of these bodies of water will contain at least one flock of Canadas, and the larger lakes (such as Argyle Lake in Babylon) hold many flocks. Each day the lead ganders round up their flocks and the birds head out toward the salt marsh or, in many cases, the nearest golf course or school yard where green grass is abundant.

In watching geese over the years, I have found the big birds often follow a pattern in feeding. Always, the wind and tide have a direct bearing on their feeding habits. The hunter spending time observing the flocks should be able to estimate when and where the flock will go. It may take several days of watching, but the time spent is well worth it.

Along with the fresh water ponds on the island itself, wildlilfe preserves, like one at Tobay (the old Guggenheimer Pond) on Jones Beach, provide sanctuary for the geese; these birds fly out to the marshes to feed, thereby providing the gunners with many opportunities.

The prime time for getting your goose is during bad weather. Weather that says MISERY. A howling, freezing snow storm or rain storm, the kind your wife says you're crazy to be out in, is beautiful weather to a real waterfowler.

Storms seem to get all waterfowl rattled. They can't sit still and trade up and down the bay, looking for companions or some sheltered cove to rest in. If it's freezing weather, the birds realize their food supplies may soon be under ice; they look for any open water and a chance to eat. If the hunter can get to his favorite spot in this kind of weather, he is in for some incredible gunning.

The only thing better than hunting in a storm is gunning a windhole in the ice. Late in the season, when the bay freezes, the birds look for open water and congregate there, even if it's only a tiny opening. Birds come from miles and pour in reckless abandon, providing the best shooting possible.

At times these windholes are extremely difficult to reach; hunters crossing ice should exercise caution in approaching them, as salt ice is easily thinned by the tide and collapses without cracking under a little weight.

If you are fortunate enough to set up near a windhole, simply cover yourself with a white sheet for camouflage and remain still. You won't need many decoys to attract the birds: half a dozen black duck and a pair of goose decoys should be sufficient.

When setting out goose decoys keep most of them together, but still far enough apart so they don't bump together and tangle during a shift in wind direction. Each gunner has his own idea how the rig should be set — myself included — but, from experience, I find a group set together, with a pair placed close into the bank, works well.

If you own black duck or mallard decoys, use them with the goose decoys. In watching geese on a pond, I found they frequently mingled with the ducks; using the two types of decoys makes a natural looking rig.

Always keep in mind the wind direction when setting up your blocks: decoying ducks and geese almost always land into the wind. If your decoy spread is too far out, the birds are going to stool out of range and provide you with one of the most frustrating sights in hunting.

A call can be invaluable in hunting the big honkers. Geese respond well to a call, but don't overcall (the most common mistake). Once you succeed in getting the birds coming your way, ease up and let them come in. If they start to swing away, resume calling. As an example of how effective a call can be, here is a case in point:

Gunning an island south of Massapequa two years back, I watched a flock of snow geese head my way. As they passed by out of range I suddenly realized the last bird in the flock was a Canada: I scrambled for the goose call and started calling.

After a few seconds, the flock swung around and headed back into the wind — directly for my rig. I continued calling, then eased off as the flock set their wings and dropped into the stool. One shot of number 4's and the lone Canada was mine.

Geese are large birds. Be certain they are within range before firing.

Sounds simple, right? But, at the time, I wasn't goose hunting. I was rigged out for broadbill and had a pair of blackduck decoys in close to the bank...no goose decoys out at all.

Individual geese can weigh in excess of fifteen pounds. Any bird this size requires a powerful shell and large shot to bring him down. Remember — the down and feathers on these birds are thick, and their bones are heavy.

When you down a goose, watch him. If he raises his head, knock it down. A twelve gauge shot gun, loaded with number 2's in express or magnum loads, is a good combination for geese, but, even more important, let your target get close before you blast away.

Geese tend to confuse the average gunner because of their large size, and many times the hunter is convinced his bird is in range only to find out — after shooting — that he should have waited. One rule some old timer market hunters used was to shoot when the eye of the bird was visible.

Anyone witnessing the wavering, V-shaped flocks high above has to marvel at these powerful gamebirds. The goose is a tremendously strong flier; so strong, in fact, that he sometimes winds up as far south as the island of Jamaica. The flock's leader has probably made the long journey from the north country many times, and he well knows of men and their guns.

Whether you gun him over a stool set in the marsh, or over silhouettes in a cornfield, the Canada goose presents a real challenge. He should...he's king of waterfowl.

Catching Yellow Perch

by Matt Ahern

Recently I had occasion to stroll along the Peconic River. There were quite a few fishermen present and all had fish in the bucket; some nice white perch, bluegills, and a scattering of bullheads and crappies made up most of the catch. But what I particularly noticed were the three fair-sized yellow perch taken by one fisherman. They immediately brought back nostalgic visions of long-gone days when the bamboo pole, bottle cork bobber, and two for a penny "perch hooks" were the cause of much hookey playing.

Many fishermen consider the perch, and other panfish, just "kid stuff", but this is no longer so. Panfishing has long been known as America's favorite fishing, and with good reason. Yellow perch, especially, can be a whale of a lot of sport when fished with the proper tackle. The secret is in using light tackle...light all the way.

The perch isn't a big fish as fish go, the record being set back in 1865 when a 4½ pounder was taken in the Delaware River by Dr. C. C. Abbott. Most perch average under a pound, but many lakes, particularly in Westchester and Putnam counties, and probably Lake Ronkonkoma, hold fish of two and three pounds. In fact, yellow perch are important enough to the economy in that they support quite a commercial fishery in the Great Lakes, and party boats departing from these lakeside ports carry capacity crowds in search of these delicious and easy to catch fish. What they lack in size, they compensate for by their abundance and willingness to take a baited hook twelve months a year.

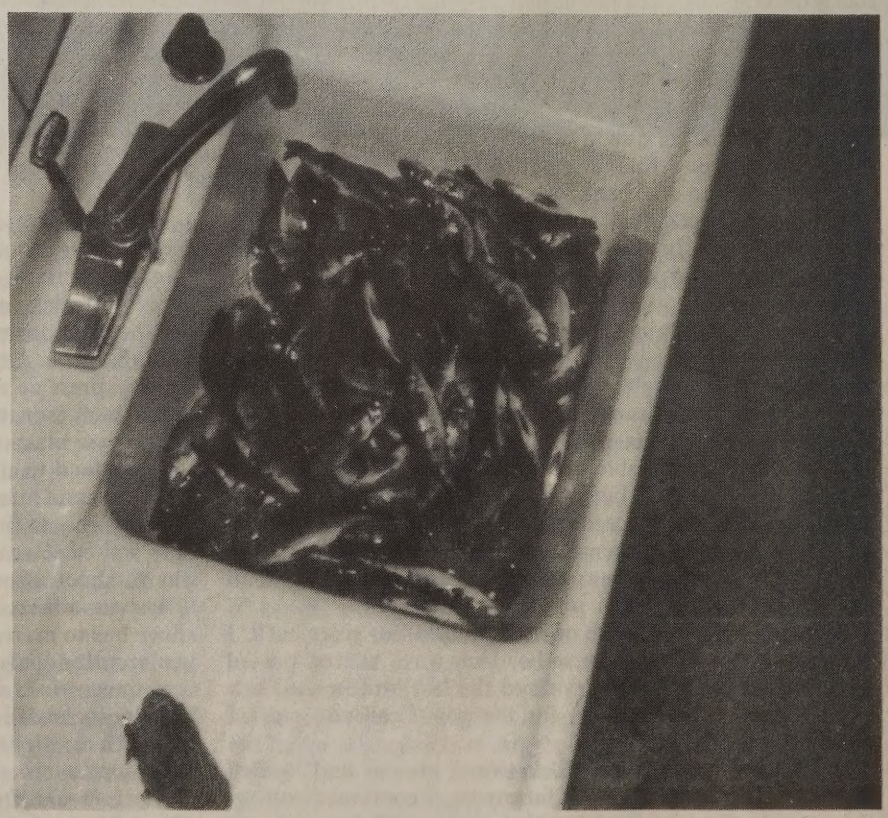
Many fishermen classify the white and yellow perch as members of the same family, but this is a mistake. The white perch is cousin to the salt-water basses such as the sea bass and striper, while the yellow perch is strictly a denizen of fresh water whose relatives are the wall-eye, sauger and the creek darter. In the Nile River there is a relative called the Nile perch which will weigh 500 pounds. Some perch!

The yellow perch is primarily a lake fish which likes cool water and plenty of weeds; warm, sluggish streams contain very few perch. Sharing the same waters with the perch are a variety of other fish, including such various sunfishes as the large and smallmouth bass, the rock bass and bluegills. (Yes, these fresh water "bass" are really members of the sunfish family.) Your chance of getting any of these fish while perch fishing is excellent.

Many perch are caught from shore, piers, and wharfs, but to consistently get the larger ones, nothing beats a boat. Except during the spawning season in spring, most shore fish are small, with the larger perch nearly always in deeper water up to and including 50 feet. In fall and winter, when the oxygen supply is being depleted, perch will work into shallower water, but the serious fisherman will do better if he fishes deep.

Whether you troll with a double-bladed, light colored spinner and worm or still fish with a worm or minnow, it isn't too difficult to locate a school of perch and catch all you want. Perch are the great rovers of the lake, and it won't take long to learn their feeding grounds. When one school leaves, another will soon be along to take its place.

The key to enjoying the best sport with these scrappy fish is to use a very light spinning outfit equipped with four to six pound test monofilament. Rigging is simple: with a number ten snap swivel tied at the end, put on a quarter-ounce dipsey sinker. As for the



The result of two hours of ice fishing.

hook, nothing beats a plain, unsnelled #6 Sproat for perch. Tie a two inch loop about 20 inches from the sinker, using a double overhand knot. Shove the loop through the hook eye and bring the end over the hook and pull tight. You will catch more perch with this simple little rig than with the fancy hardware. Dispense with the bobber...you will be fishing in water too deep for it to be practical.

Bait with an inch-long piece of garden worm or nightcrawler and drop over the side until the sinker hits bottom. If there are any perch around, it won't be long before they'll be flopping in your bucket.

Live minnows are great perch bait and, if you intend using them, you should modify your rigging just a bit. This is where you should use a snelled hook of the same size and type as before. Place it with the sinker, and hook the minnow **lightly** through the lips or back. The lips are preferable, because the perch will take the minnow head-first. Lower the bait to within two feet of the bottom and give the perch time to move off a bit with the minnow before you strike.

Yellow perch are readily caught through the ice in winter. This is where the perch fisherman comes into his own, since probably more perch are caught in winter than at any other time. If the opportunity presents itself, take advantage of it. This fishing can become really wild at times.

To get to the fish, holes must be chopped through the ice, and for this you need an ice spud, also called an ice chisel. You should also have an ice skimmer, which is a long-handled, spoon shaped implement with holes. This can be used from time to time to dip out the ice splinters that form.

If the spud is kept sharp, chopping holes is no problem. Touch it up at the beginning of the season and it will go through the ice in no time at all. Make your first hole in about twenty feet of water, wtih succeeding holes out into the lake into deeper water until you strike fish. You will have to locate the fish just as in summer, but many times the first hole cut will produce fish all day long.

Live minnows are top bait for winter perch fishing, but there are days when the eye of a yellow perch will double your catch. If you use minnows, the summer rig-up will work just fine, but if you try perch eyes, you should use some sort of lure, such as the popular

Smallmouth bass caught while perch fishing.

Swedish Pimple, with treble hooks, not only for needed weight to get down quickly, but for the flash it imparts.

Impale a perch eye on one of the treble hooks and lower it about six feet. If there is no action after a minute or two, raise it a foot and let it flutter back. Do this three or four times in succession and then let it rest quietly. If there are perch around, they will come in a hurry. No perch can resist that fluttering action, and soon one perch after another will be coming through the ice. This works so well, there will be times when a perch will chase after the lure with such speed he will throw himself out onto the ice through sheer momentum.

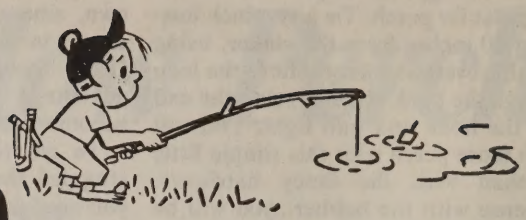
The same rod used in summer can also be used for winter fishing. Some fishermen use tip-ups for perch fishing, but they can be a nuisance when the fish are biting rapidly, which is just about all the time. Unless you intend to fish for pickerel with live bait, they should not be used at all for perch.

Any kind of perch fishing is fun, but a word of caution. If you take up ice fishing, play it safe! Make sure the thickness of ice will hold you; take a buddy along for double insurance. Ice fishing is as safe as any other type of fishing, but there are precautions a sensible fisherman should take at all times.

Perch are exceptionally fine eating. they freeze well and can be kept for months without loss of flavor. If you are fortunate enough to know of a good perch lake, give it a try. You'll be glad you did. The next time I stroll by the Peconic River, you may be sure I'll have a rod along.

Getting perch ready for the freezer.

Ye Olde Tackle Shoppe



by Don Vetter

Christmas is a time of magic for the young and, for a young angler, the display window of a tackle store can be a wonderland of promise. Nose pressed against the cold glass, a boy visualizes a longed-for reel or other item of tackle transported from that window to beneath the Christmas tree on that morning of mornings.

I look back through the years to my own youth when, in the late 1950's, a certain tackle shop was my personal Valhalla, and hint-dropping to my parents was a major occupation during the holiday season.

My efforts did not go unrewarded for, come Christmas morning, the split-willow creel of my dreams was to be found nestled among the other presents at the base of the tree. Gazing fondly on this particular creel, which is still in active use today (and not unfamiliar to readers of this column, through the numerous photographs it has appeared in), evokes happy memories.

Living in Queens Village in those days, the little tackle shop on Jericho Turnpike in Floral Park was but a short bike ride away. "William Dickson, Sporting Goods, Fishing Tackle, Guns & Ammo." the sign above the perpetually dirty window proclaimed and, to me, the wares displayed on the dusty shelves within were more a source of wonder than any treasure trove. The gruff, misanthropic exterior of Bill Dickson concealed a heart as big as all outdoors and boundless patience when it came to inquisitive young boys and their endless questions.

Though even then I had been freshwater fishing for some time, my boyhood experience was limited to Vermont. I was unaware that freshwater fishing of any kind was available on Long Island. Bill soon set me straight by aquainting me with a pond which lay within bicycle distance of my home.

Oakland Lake in Bayside, Queens was at that time quite a fishing hole, receiving an annual stocking of trout and containing crappies, bluegills, chain pickerel and even a few smallmouth bass. Crappies and an occasional pickerel made up the bulk of my catch on most of my bike jaunts to the lake and, while I managed to fool a bass to two, I must confess that I never took a trout from its waters, a swirl or two behind my Wob-l-Right spoon being the best I could manage; these New York trout must be somehow different from their Vermont brethren, I thought to myself at the time.

Besides pointing out freshwater fishing spots on the Island, Bill was always ready to offer advice on any subject, from fly patterns to bass plugs. I had plenty to learn on the subject of fishing, and Bill was a good teacher. With the avid eagerness of youth, I was a captivated audience to many a tale of musky fishing in the north country or of the giant largemouth bass of Florida, as well as the more prosaic fishing in local waters. The kind of fishing I had only to read about in outdoor magazines came alive for me in the stories and anecdotes Bill would relate.

Though fishing is a subject that can never be fully learned, I certainly received a pretty good grounding on the topic by listening to Bill, and many a time I would drop by the shop for some hooks or split shot I didn't really need, just as an excuse to absorb more of the homey wisdom he dispensed.

Our conversations did not consist entirely of fishing; I well remember Bill's telling me of his experiences in World War I, of which he was a decorated veteran. Little did I know, while listening to tales about that distant "war to end all wars", that my own generation was to become involved in a war of its own. How different the tangled miasma in the humid heat of Vietnam and the sense of futility it engendered, from that earlier conflict with its clear cut ideals and uncompromising goal. No songs like "Over There" no Armistice Day to celebrate, no heros of the stature of Sergeant York came out of the recently ended American involvement, only a feeling of bitterness among participants and public alike.

The old tackle shop has long since closed it doors for the last time. It lives on only in the memory of those who frequented it to purchase tackle and hear the words of Bill Dickson. There must be a whole generation of neighborhood kids, since grown to manhood, who once stood enraptured — as I myself did — before those dusty shelves filled with all manner of hunting and fishing gear. And what of the propietor, Bill himself? Sad to relate I lost touch with this true gentleman and sportsman many years back; in fact, I know not whether he is living or dead.

With Christmas with us once more, I find my thoughts turning again to that old tackle shop and Bill Dickson. Does anyone else among that legion of vanished youth remember? Surely someone out there can recall the shop or perhaps even knows what became of Bill. If there are any who remember William Dickson and the old tackle shop to which I write in tribute, I would appreciate it if they would get in touch with me, care of The Fisherman. A letter or two would be a welcome gesture, for no one truly dies until they are forgotten.

Good luck, tight lines and Merry Christmas.

Season's Greetings

TO ALL SURF NUTS
Especially to the gang at NOYAC MARINA & LON WANSERS
Also HAROLD & JOE
"THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL SEASON"
– RUSSELL (Flounder Belly) BROWN –

Season's Greetings

AROUND THE ISLAND

BY FRED GUARDINEER

SUFFOLK COUNTY SPECIAL DEER SEASON

MON. JAN. 7 - FRI. JAN. 11 AND MON. JAN 14 - FRI. JAN. 18. IN TOWNS OF SHELTER ISLAND, EAST HAMPTON, SOUTHAMPTON, RIVERHEAD AND BROOK HAVEN. YOU NEED UNFILLED BIG GAME LICENSE, ONE DOLLAR FOR A PERMIT AND CONNECTIONS.

SLUG SHOT-GUNS ONLY.

2500 DEER IN SUFF. CO.

MOST DEER WILL HAVE LOST THEIR ANTLERS.

250 DEER NEED TO BE SHOT.

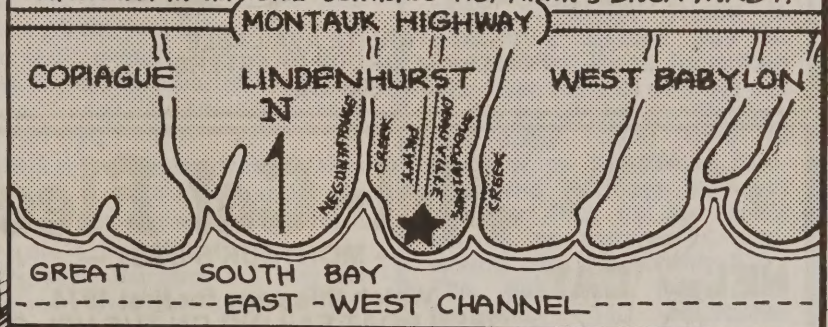
DEER OF EITHER SEX ARE FAIR GAME. LOVE THAT DOE MEAT!

CO-OP PERMITS SUN. DEC. 23 TO SUN. DEC. 30, 9 AM.

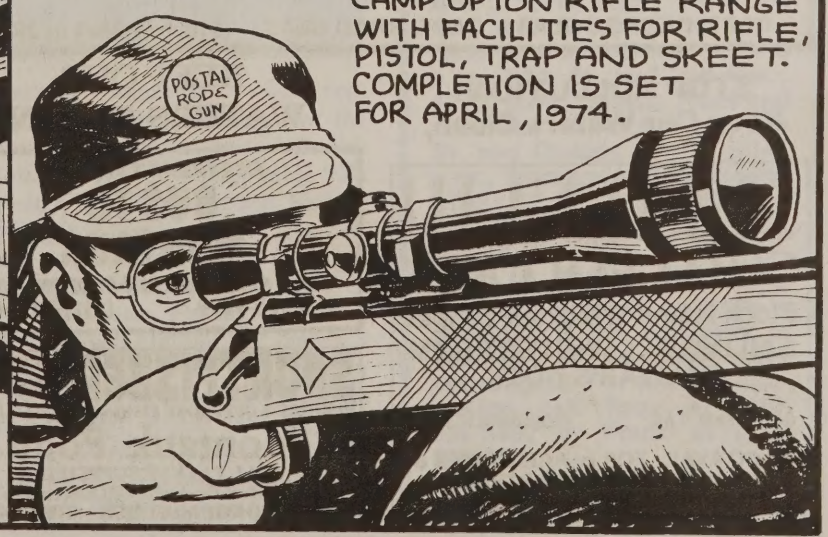
BARN OWLS ARE REPORTED LIVING TOPSIDE OF THE ENTRY HALL OF THE JONES BEACH MARINE THEATER. RODENTS ARE THEIR MAIN DIET, MICE FOR NEW BORN BABIES AND RATS FOR EIGHT-WEEK - OLD CHICKS. PARENT OWLS HAVE BEEN TIMED TO PRODUCE 21 MICE & RATS IN 25 MINUTES TO FEED THEIR HUNGRY BROOD. THESE SOCIABLE PREDATORS SEEM TO LIKE BEING NEAR MAN, SAYS THE "L.I. FORUM."

BARN OWLS HAVE TAKEN OVER THE DECOMMISSIONED COAST GUARD TOWER ON DEMOCRAT PT.

A NEW BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP IS PLANNED FOR CONSTRUCTION IN GREAT SOUTH BAY AT VENETIAN SHORES BEACH, LINDENHURST, BY THE TOWN OF BABYLON. *PRACTICALLY IN CAPT. BILL "SEA HORSE" HOFMANN'S BACK YARD!!*



THE NEW BROOKHAVEN TOWN RIFLE & PISTOL RANGE WILL BE ONE OF THE FINEST OF ITS KIND - LOCATED NORTH OF RT. 25 AT THE FORMER CAMP UPTON RIFLE RANGE WITH FACILITIES FOR RIFLE, PISTOL, TRAP AND SKEET. COMPLETION IS SET FOR APRIL, 1974.



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Peter Wiggins of Babylon caught this 47 lb. cod 5 miles south of Fire Island Inlet (90 feet of water).

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South Shore Report

Montauk Point and the nearby Block Island area continues to produce plenty of codfish. These fish are mostly in the three to ten pound range wtih an occasional twenty or thirty pounder taking the bait. Capt. Les Behan of the Peconic Queen II had a Mr. Fred Nyman of Carle Place, N.Y. who won the pool with a 56 pound cod taken from the offshore Block Island waters. Most of this good codfishing is taking place not more than one hours run from the harbor so you are not subjected to a long ride and have more fishing time. As evidence of this, on Sunday, Capt. Rade of the Marlin III was back at the dock before noon. He said that his fares had at least a bag of fish each and some had two. Dick said this was due to the many double headers that were picked up at the North Rips.

Speaking to Chet at B&B Tackle in Center Moriches, brought forth the information that no cod or flounders were caught this past week because no one went out to fish. Further discussion disclosed that although the Moriches Inlet is officially closed to navigation by the Coast Guard it can still be used. Only those skippers with a thoroughly sea worthy boat and who have good capability running rough inlets should attempt this one.

Vince Fragione reported this fish caught Dec. 8th, Sat., out of Fire Island Inlet in 95' of water south of Lighthouse. The boat was the "Sea Venture", captain George Scelzi. Total catch for the day was 18 cod and a bushel of whiting. The cod were mostly in the 5-10 lb. class but they did have a 27 lb, 33 lb, and this 43½ lb. fish. Note: the dogfish were stronger than ever.

The Captain Scotty, out of Captree, had eighty fish for ten people on both days of the weekend. On Saturday about ten fish were caught ranging from twenty to thirty two pounds while on Sunday about half of them were that size. Al Calhan of Laurelton, called to say that he fished the Capt. Scotty on Tuesday of last week. He said there were 150 cod taken aboard the boat. These fish were 3 or 4 pounds and the pool fish was 32 pounds. They were fishing in 85 to 90 foot water, south of the Fire Island Inlet and ran into lots of dogfish at first, but once they were cleaned out it was all cod. Al caught 23 fish in addition to the pool fish.

"Fish, fish, fish, they're all over the place," said Capt. Litwin. He said the cod have been running good since a week ago Saturday, and have stayed all week long. These fish were under ten pounds and were caught on the open bottoms. All the pool fish were close to or over thirty pounds. Mrs Litwin even saw one angler with a burlap bag full of filets on Sunday. (He Must have been using two rods.)

A quick survey of some tackle dealers found most of them selling tackle for Christmas while bait sales are taking a back seat. A few dock fishermen are catching some flounders but they are getting more excercise than fish.

N.Y. Bight Report

"Fantastic weekend" with cod, reports Capt. Richie Kessinger of the Starstream. Saturday, over 300 fish came aboard, with an unbelievable 50% of the catch 20 to 40 pound fish. Fishing slowed slightly Sunday due to weather, 200 cod up to 25 lbs. Richie said that this was the best codfishing for the area in the last five years. Fishing is 12 miles offshore on open bottom, but there's a catch...being made by 30 foreign trawlers who are working about a mile outside the limit. Richie said they are respecting our ridiculously low 12 mile limit, but who knows what they do when the sun goes down? It won't take long for this amount of trawlers to vacuum sweep the bottom of any fish around.

The Aloma II ,had a slow pick of codfish outside Jones Inlet with whiting being caught in abundance. But codfishing was what everyone came for so he headed for the Cholera Banks where he did a job on the cod. They had 70 cod for 14 people. Heartiest fishermen, by staying at their rods, were the ones who had better catches.

Capt. Al Lindroth came back every day except Friday with over 200 fish. Sunday he topped that by another hundred. He said that everyone had 10 or fifteen fish with whiting and ling mixed in. At least seven cod were over twenty pounds.

The inshore fishing is pretty fair. Although it is a slow pick for codfish, the whiting are plentiful enough and big enough to make an interesting trip, said Capt. Bill of the "Ginnie Mae". The cod come small but once in a while a fish up to twenty pounds

(Continued on page 18.)

BUS TO MONTAUK

The Readi Transportation Corp. of Staten Island is running a special bus to Montauk for those fishermen who have fears of running out of gas on weekends. The bus will make round trips to Montauk on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays and will arrive in time for the boats leaving as early as 4 a.m. Round trip fare is only $10. The bus will make the following 11 scheduled stops:

12 midnight, 161st St. and Grand Concourse; 12:10 a.m., 124th St. and 2nd Ave.; 12:12 a.m., 116th St. and 2nd Ave.; 12:15 a.m., 92nd St. and 2nd Ave.; 12:18 a.m., 64th St. and 2nd Ave.; 12:30 a.m., Queens Plaza and 27th St.; 12:40 a.m., Grand St. and Queens Blvd.; 12:45 a.m., Woodhaven and Queens Blvd.; 12:55 a.m., L.I.R.R. — Jamaica; 1 a.m., 164th St. and Hillside Ave.; 1:10 a.m., 164th St. and L.I. Exp.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

(Continued from page 17.)

ventures close enough to shore to be caught:

Capt. Clem of the Commodore decided to switch from flounders to cod and was rewarded with codfish up to twenty pounds or more. By running eight to ten miles to the Southeast he ran into numerous fish which co-operated by taking the bait and being caught by the dozens.

Capt. Fred Artolino of the Amberjack IV reported "another terrific weekend". Big cod predominated on Saturday with the pool fish going just Brooklyn. There was 7 or 8 fish well over 40 pounds and 12 to 15 cod in the 25 to 30 lb. range. Over 100 fish in the 2-10 pound range rounded out the catch. Fishing was done on open bottom, with the larger fish taken over wrecks. Sundays' rough weather prevented a return to Saturdays' productive grounds, but what was lost in size was compensated for by quantity — 100 to 125 cod came aboard — largest 25 pounds.

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The L.I. Fisherman
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GREAT WHITE SHARK!

(Continued from page 7.)

a massive, fish, still alive, but slowly drowning itself. The more it tried to free its bonds, the tighter it became enmeshed in the ropes, and now blood was starting to ooze from its gill slits. The lack of water forced through the gills was also causing it to become weaker.

The biggest problem to the crew and the captain was where to put the captured shark for the return trip to port while they lobstered. No place on board for such a mass, and if the thing became activitated in its last fight for life while on board, LOOK OUT! Not only was there no room, but the "Smart Aleck" was to be out there for a few days. So, the order was to "cut the thing loose". But who was to do it, and where?

As the knife was about to be put to the rope, the shark became active and started to thrash about once again. The single strand of rope that was holding the shark up gave way with a loud "snap" which sounded like a report from a rifle shot. The shark, feeling the tension loosen on its body, began to roll once again. As it did this time, it freed itself and the yellow nylon rope became untangled from about the body. The Great White Shark righted itself and slowly disappeared from sight.

As the mamoth shark settled, the three aboard gave a sigh of relief. Talking later on, they estimated the shark to go over 3500 pounds. The length was well over thirty feet and its diameter was better than three feet. It had to be estimated by sight in all dimensions, as nobody on board wanted to go near it to get the measurements.

If you venture out to the famous Hudson Canyon this year, and happen to see a big, BIG, white shark with rope marks in back of the gill slits, you will know this story is true.

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WHERE THE MARLIN ARE

(Continued from page 9.)

but most of the time he just slugged it out.

As darkness arrived we found that we were able to follow the line by the phosphorescence in the water. Yet, after more than 12 hours the fight came to an end when another fish apparently hit the line. The swordfish felt just as strong then as he did at the beginning, so it's probably just as well that he got away. I might still be fighting him! It would have been a world record on 30 pound if we had caught him but none of us were too disappointed that the great fish beat us fair and square.

There are plenty of thrills waiting for you in Eucador, and now is as good a time as any to give it a try. Inshore fishing isn't developed but if you ask your captain to spend an hour trolling around the rocks at Point Elena, you'll probably be rewarded with roosterfish, jacks and sierra mackerel. There's a fine stretch of beach for surfcasting at Punta Carnero from which I've taken small roosterfish and jacks on both poppers and metal.

Boat reservations can be made directly through Knud Holst, Pesca Tours, Box 487, Guayaquil, Ecuador, S.A.. Hotel and plane reservations are available through Safari Outfitters, Inc., 8 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60603.

It seems like a long way to go but, with modern transportation, you can be there in half a day and ready to fish in the morning. If you've always wanted to catch the trophy of your dreams, give Salinas a try this winter. In a week's fishing you're almost sure to connect, and you'll be surprised to find that it doesn't cost much more than a Florida vacation!

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The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs	12:45	**7:20**	1:15	**7:45**
Fri	1:30	**8:05**	2:00	**8:30**
Sat	2:15	**8:50**	2:45	**9:15**
Sun	3:00	**9:40**	3:30	**10:00**
Mon	3:50	**10:20**	4:15	**10:45**
Tues	4:30	**11:15**	5:00	**11:40**
Wed	5:25		5:55	**12:05**
Thurs	6:20	**12:35**	6:45	**12:55**

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To place an ad in The Long Island Fisherman Classified call (516) 667-6636. *Classified ads are billed at 15 cents a word with a $4.50 or 30 word minimum. Discounts on extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; 50 times, 15%. Ask about our Photo Classified. Effective date Jan. 1, 1973.*

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1972 Fiberglass TROJAN MARLIN. 25' x 9'4", center console fisherman. 215 h.p. inboard. C/B, VHF radio, Ross dual depth recorder, fighting chair, outriggers, built-in fish & bait wells. In water, will demo. $6500. (212) GR-4-8542.

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19' Grady White, Angler, 140 h.p. I/O, w/Trailer
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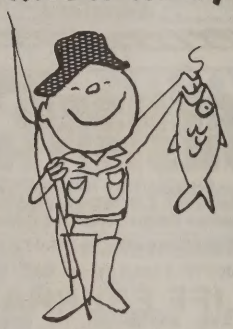

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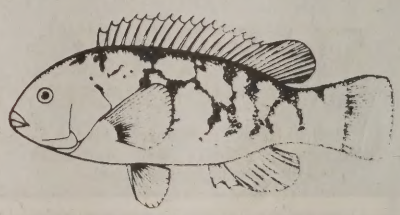

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Sport fishermen are being asked to collect scale samples from striped bass for a research project initiated by the Striped Bass Fund, Inc. Taken from the area indicated by arrow; above the lateral line, between the hard and soft dorsal fins; the scales will assist in determining spawning areas of this important game fish.

Three to ten scales together with exact fork length of the fish, location and date of capture are required. If the fish is to be released, three scales are requested — ten scales from fish to be kept. Scales should be sent to: Dr. C. P. Goodyear, Environmental Science Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37840.

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
THURSDAY	4:27	4:47	6:10	6:46	8:33	9:06	7:51	8:23
FRIDAY	5:17	5:38	6:53	7:31	9:22	9:54	8:42	9:12
SATURDAY	6:02	6:23	7:38	8:10	10:05	10:37	9:27	9:57
SUNDAY	6:41	7:05	8:15	8:45	10:46	11:18	10:11	10:38
MONDAY	7:22	7:42	8:51	9:26	11:19	11:47	10:51	11:19
TUESDAY	7:57	8:20	9:29	10:02	11:40		11:30	11:58
WEDNESDAY	8:35	8:55	10:04	10:42	12:10	12:01		12:09
THURSDAY	9:10	9:36	10:45	11:22	12:24	12:27	12:36	12:48

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet.Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

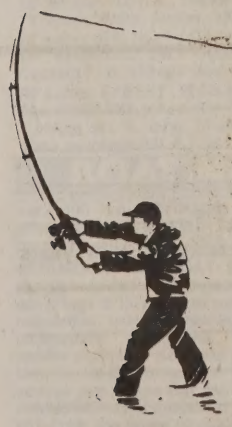
1/31	1/3	1/10	1/16
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.



TO

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